

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



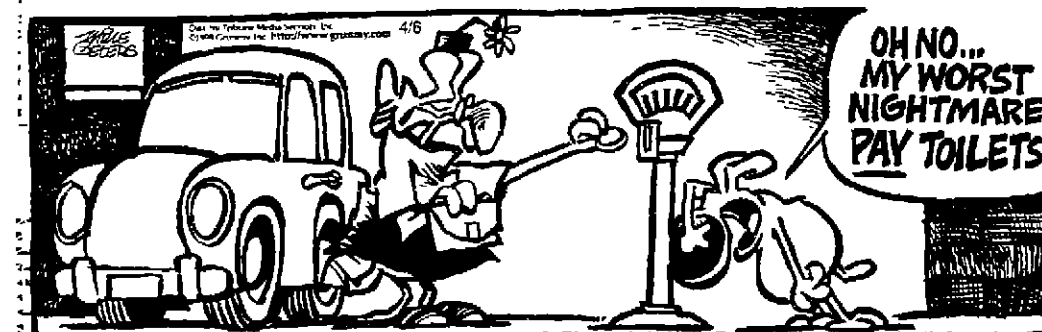
ROSE IS ROSE



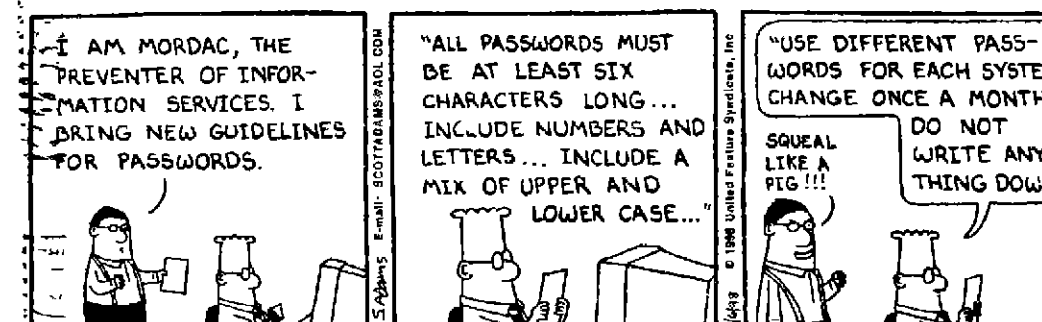
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



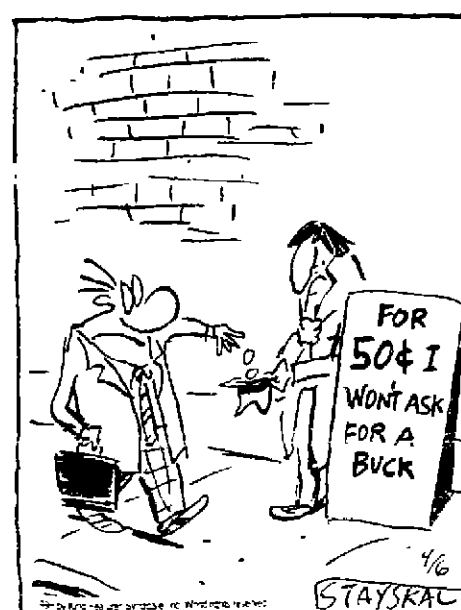
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Composer-conductor Andre Previn is 61. Country singer Merle Haggard is 69.

Williams is 61. Actor Roy Thinnes is 60. Movie director Barry Levinson is 56. Singer Michelle Phillips is 54. Actor John Ratzenberger is 51. Actress Mariu Henner is 46. Actor Michael Rooker is 43. Actress Ari Meyers ("Kate and Allie") is 29. Actor Jason Hervey ("The Wonder Years") is 26. Actress Candace Cameron is 22.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 100-110 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

RACK 1: P, D, S, L, H, O, E

RACK 2: D, X, N, N, A, E, P

RACK 3: N, S, E, E, I, S, G

RACK 4: E, L, L, N, S, T, E

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Big -

R W T P L I E R B X U Q N J G

D Z W B T Q E N D K H D A X U

R P M U J P G E D A X V S O N

K I F S P D T S L A X V T Q O

M J H I F R C E A Y W K U R P

T N D N A B E E M L C J H Y F

D O B E Z H X H U I V T D E R

Q O H S W E M C T G T D K N I

H F D S B Z M S Y O A W V O T

R Q O N L K L A E D R E I M H

F D C A Z X W V G N A B L U S

Saturday's unlisted clue: PEBBLE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Monday's unlisted clue: FAMILIAR CONSTELLATION

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Tuesday, April 7, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Opportunities to increase income become more numerous. There is one project that you bring to completion by day's end.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You could do a friend a favor. Good news puts you in an optimistic mood.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Home has always been your castle, and you begin taking steps to beautify your living quarters, as you'll be entertaining there more in the coming weeks.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Couples could plan to have more children. Bachelors will find themselves going out more in the coming weeks.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You experience positive work developments. Those in business for themselves spend some money on self-promotion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Not only are others willing to meet you halfway, you too are bending over backward to cooperate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Either a partner has some financial luck or you receive unexpected funds. A child surprises you with good news.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Fun for you could include a trip to an exotic locale where you've never been.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Not only will you consolidate the career position you find yourself in, you'll be looking for ways to expand in the near future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Although at times you're reluctant to commit yourself, you find yourself more willing to go along with others' ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You become the silent partner in a business deal, and you get chances to improve your overall financial security.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) There's a general upswing in your affairs. You're ready to tackle problems.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

In today's doubled game, South eagerly went after his obvious club ruffs in dummy. He had his eyes on the wrong target. Instead of focusing on quick winners, he should have thought about avoiding four losers.

South took his club ace and played the next three tricks in record speed. He ruffed a club in dummy, led dummy's diamond nine to his 10, and ruffed his last club. After he slowed down to take a breath, he led a trump from dummy. East won his king and led his last diamond, and South was headed for defeat.

Dummy won to lead another trump, but East was ready. He won his ace and led a heart to West's ace. The ensuing diamond ruff netted one down. A more thoughtful plan would have landed the doubled game.

As West was most likely to hold the heart ace, South should have led a heart at trick two. When West wins, South no longer needs two club ruffs in dummy; he needs only one. After South wins West's exit, he can safely lead trumps. This limits his losses to only two trumps and the heart ace, giving him 10 winners and his doubled game. Headlong pursuit of quick winners does not guarantee success of a touchy game.

NORTH 4-4-6-A
♠ 10 8 7 5
♥ K 8 6 3
♦ A K J 9
♣ 7

WEST EAST
♠ A Q J 10 7 2 ♠ A K 2
♥ 8 6 4 3 ♥ 9 5
♦ K Q J ♦ 5 2
♣ K Q J ♣ 10 8 6 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ Q J 9 6 4 3
♥ 4
♦ Q 10 7
♣ A 9 4

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

The bidding:
South West North East
2♠ 3♥ 4♠ Dbl.

Pass Pass Pass Pass
*weak two-bid

Opening lead: Club king

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0223

ACROSS

1 "Dear old" guy

4 Where Nome is

10 Nick and Nora's pooch

14 N.Y.C.'s — of the Americas

18 — to go

19 Urban haze

17 Tiny bite

18 Pat

20 Pet

22 ET's craft

23 Patriot Allen

24 Ozs. and ozs.

26 Facial spasm

29 Lucy's hubby

30 Kid's reply to a taunt

33 Cousin of "Oyl"

34 Della of "Touched by an Angel"

36 Suave actor David and others

38 Pit

40 Virginal

42 Unclouded

43 Sentry's "Stop!"

44 Europe's "boot"

46 Hounds

50 Yale student

51 — glance

52 Jazzman Blake

53 Spoil

55 Pot

56 Put

62 Chinese leader Sun — sen

63 — That a Shame" (#1 hit for 18-Across)

64 Scottish children

65 Opposite of WSW

66 Methods

67 Refuse to yield

68 Decimal point

DOWN

1 Tangoed, e.g.

2 Fly a plane

3 Ocean bottoms

4 Fire-setting crime

5 Lion's home

6 Florence's river

7 Ink a contract

8 Prepares to pray

9 Farming: Abbr.

10 Beginning on

11 Not so bumpy

12 Coal delivery

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

CIGARETTE SCAR
ONONEFOOT ANTED
CAMEOFAGE LOTTE
KNEW ODORETERS
YER DRY MESESES
ART DART TAB
ABUDE POLLS STR
YUNA ONALE STET
TNT ABOUT 22000

13 Grow older

19 City transit

21 Most equitable

23 Billy the Kid's surname

27 Country restaurant

28 Fortune 500 listing: Abbr.

29 Falseness

31 Common

32 Bing Crosby's record label

33 Add extra music to, as a vocal tape

35 Chow down

37 "Give — rest!"

38 Ex's payment, modern-style

39 Right-angled bend

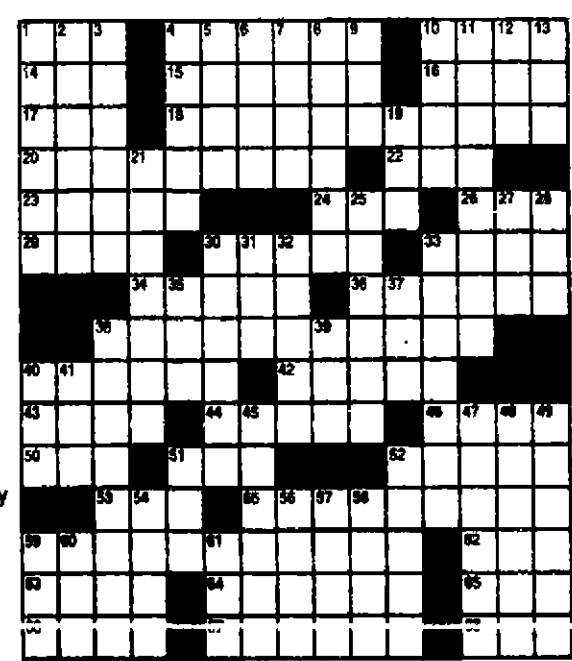
40 Guerrilla

41 Elevator innovator

42 Alternative to Maytag or KitchenAid

47 Followed orders

48 Jeans brand



49 Six-line poem

50 Biblical boat

51 — & Young (accounting firm)

52 Play parts

53 Spanish aunt

54 Japanese sash

55 Opera's — Te Kanawa

56 Geologic periods

57 Observed

58 Spanish aunt

59 Japanese sash

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-800-7-ACROSS.